

DOS, FBI, DIA, ARMY,
Reviews Completed

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

CONTAINS CODEWORD

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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 19//
TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT
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NSA review completed

NOVEMBER 18, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

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RESERVISTS ASSIGNED TO THE SOUTHERN COMMAND -- WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEFENSE OF THE SINAI -- ALSO HAVE BEEN RECALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY.

25X1

U.S. ARMY INTELLIGENCE HAS ALSO REPORTED THAT [REDACTED] WAS ALERTED BY THE ISRAELI EMBASSY ON SATURDAY TO BE PREPARED FOR IMMEDIATE RECALL TO ISRAEL TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE MILITARY OPERATIONS.

25X1

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U.S. OFFICIALS IN CAIRO REPORT THAT THE SITUATION APPEARS TO BE CALMING DOWN AND THAT THERE ARE NO SIGNS OF A HEIGHTENED EGYPTIAN MILITARY ALERT AS OF 1600 CAIRO TIME. THE CAIRO PRESS REPORTED THIS MORNING THAT PRESIDENT SADAT HAD REASSURED PRESIDENT FORD AND SOVIET PARTY CHIEF BREZHNEV THAT NEITHER EGYPT NOR SYRIA PLANNED TO ATTACK ISRAEL. THE SYRIAN DEFENSE MINISTER ALSO REITERATED TODAY THAT SYRIA IS COMMITTED TO THE CEASE-FIRE, BUT IS READY TO REBUFF ANY ISRAELI AGGRESSION.

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PHILIPPINE EMBASSY UPDATE: THE FBI REPORTS THE GUNMAN STILL HOLDS THE AMBASSADOR AND ONE OTHER PERSON HOSTAGE IN THE AMBASSADOR'S OFFICE. THEY BELIEVE THEY HAVE SEEN A BODY IN THE ROOM. THE GUNMAN IS NAPOLEON LECHOCO, A PHILLIPINE LAWYER WHO GOT IN TROUBLE WITH THE MARCOS GOVERNMENT THERE AND CAME TO THE U.S. ABOUT A YEAR AGO. HE HAS ASKED THAT HIS SON AND ANOTHER COUPLE NOW IN THE PHILLIPINES BE ALLOWED TO COME TO THE U.S. A PHILLIPINE SPOKESMAN SAYS PRESIDENT MARCOS HAS AGREED TO THE RELEASE OF THE SON. NEGOTIATIONS ARE CONTINUING IN WHAT IS EXPECTED TO BE A PROTRACTED AFFAIR

25X1

U.S. GRAIN SALES TO CHINA: CHINESE VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN TOLD A GROUP OF JAPANESE INDUSTRIALISTS EARLIER THIS MONTH THAT CHINA WOULD NOT CONTRACT FOR FURTHER GRAIN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. HE SAID PEKING WOULD HONOR EXISTING CONTRACTS. LI LINKED HIS REMARKS TO CHINESE IRRITATION OVER WHAT HE SAID WERE U.S. CHARGES AT THE ROME FOOD CONFERENCE THAT CHINA IMPORTED GRAIN IN ORDER TO CORNER THE MARKET AND DRIVE UP PRICES. A JAPANESE PRESS SERVICE ATTRIBUTED LI'S REMARKS BOTH TO THE ROME CONFERENCE AND TO HIS CLAIM THAT CHINA HAD ATTAINED SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOOD PRODUCTION.

STATUS REPORT ON ITALIAN GOVERNMENT CRISIS: MORO'S CHANCES OF FORMING A GOVERNMENT REMAIN LESS THAN EVEN. OVER THE LAST WEEK, HIS EFFORTS HAVE RUN INTO MOUNTING DIFFICULTIES BECAUSE THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS HAVE REFUSED TO LEND THEIR SUPPORT TO A MORO ALL-CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED BY THE OTHER CENTER-LEFT PARTIES. THUS, MORO'S ATTEMPT TO GLOSS OVER THE POLITICAL ISSUES DIVIDING THE TWO HOSTILE CAMPS OF ITALIAN SOCIALISM -- THE SOCIALISTS AND THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS -- APPEARS TO HAVE FAILED. WITH THESE EVENTS IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC DIRECTORATE MET ON NOVEMBER 18 TO DECIDE ON THE NEXT STEPS. ACCORDING TO THE U.S. EMBASSY, THE DIRECTORATE INSTRUCTED MORO TO CONTINUE HIS CONSULTATIONS TO FORM A GOVERNMENT, THIS TIME WITH THE SMALL REPUBLICAN PARTY. THE HOPE APPARENTLY IS THAT THE SOCIALISTS AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS WOULD SUPPORT SUCH A MINORITY GOVERNMENT FROM THE OUTSIDE, THUS ALLOWING APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET AND CARRYING THE COUNTRY FORWARD LONG ENOUGH TO AVOID ELECTIONS IN MIDWINTER. (GATES)

EC NINE POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING: A QUAI OFFICIAL HAS INFORMED EMBASSY PARIS THAT THE SHORT EC NINE POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING IN PARIS LATE LAST WEEK TOOK NO MAJOR DECISIONS AND BROKE NO NEW GROUND. THE DIRECTORS' GENERAL DISCUSSION DEALT WITH THE MIDDLE EAST, GREECE, CSCE, PORTUGAL,

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AND THE EC NINE SUMMIT.

THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS HAVE NOT SCHEDULED ANOTHER REGULAR MEETING PRIOR TO THE TURN OF THE YEAR, ALTHOUGH THEY WILL PROBABLY MEET AS AN AD HOC GROUP IN PREPARATION FOR THE DECEMBER SUMMIT (SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 9-13). THE EMBASSY'S QUAI CONTACT SAID THE FRENCH EC PRESIDENCY WAS COMPLETELY OPEN TO COMMENTS BY THE U.S. ON THE SUBJECTS UNDER DISCUSSION BY THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS. (LIFT)

BRANDT SPARED DIRECT BLAME FOR SPY: AP REPORTS A DECISION ANNOUNCED MONDAY BY A SPECIAL WEST GERMAN INVESTIGATING COMMISSION TO SPARE FORMER CHANCELLOR WILLY BRANDT DIRECT BLAME FOR THE SPYING OF HIS FORMER AIDE, GUENTER GILLAUME. THE COMMISSION DID CRITICIZE BRANDT'S FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF AND WEST GERMANY'S SECURITY SERVICES FOR GIVING "SPEED PRECEDENCE OVER CAUTION" IN GRANTING CLEARANCES AND SUBSEQUENTLY PROPOSED MAJOR REFORMS IN WEST GERMANY'S SECURITY SYSTEMS.

WASHINGTON STAR-NEWS: INDIA'S DEFENSE MINISTER SAYS THE DIS-QUIETING PLANS OF SEVERAL NATO COUNTRIES TO HOLD NAVAL EXERCISES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN WILL BRING NEW TENSIONS TO AN AREA ALREADY DISTURBED BY U.S. PLANS TO PUT A NAVAL BASE ON THE TINY ISLAND OF DIEGO GARCIA.

A STAR EDITORIAL SAYS THAT SINCE YASIR ARAFAT'S APPEARANCE BEFORE THE UNGA, IT IS ASSUMED THE SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION TO THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IS AT LEAST TEMPORARILY AT A DEAD END. BUT, ALTHOUGH ISRAEL HAS REJECTED ANY THOUGHT OF NEGOTIATION WITH THE PLO, THIS DOES NOT MEAN ALL PROGRESS TOWARD AN ARAB-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT MUST GRIND TO A HALT. INDEED, IT MUST NOT, IF ONLY BECAUSE A TOTAL STALEMATE WOULD GREATLY INCREASE THE CHANCES OF YET ANOTHER WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

CHARLES BARTLETT WRITES THAT YOUR ORDERS FOR THE U.S. TO REMAIN NEUTRAL AT THE QUITO CONFERENCE WERE NOT AN EXPRESSION OF YOUR LATIN AMERICAN POLICY, BUT AN EFFORT TO SQUEEZE THE SOVIET UNION INTO MORE CONSTRUCTIVE BEHAVIOR IN THE MIDDLE EAST. YOU WERE SERVING NOTICE TO MOSCOW THAT CUBA CAN REMAIN A SOVIET ECONOMIC LIABILITY.

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